

XLI.—*On a Collection of Birds from Nyasaland.*

By Captain G. E. SHELLEY, F.Z.S.

DR. SCLATER has asked me to arrange and name a third collection of birds lately received from Lt.-Col. W. H. Manning, H.B.M. Deputy Commissioner for British Central Africa. It was made mostly in the country at the southern end of Lake Nyasa, which lies between 13° and 16° S. lat. and 33° and 36° E. long. It comprises 57 specimens from South Angoniland, collected in October 1900; 20 from Chalasulo, obtained in the last week in November; and 36 during the following months of December and January. In this collection of 113 specimens there are 75 species represented. Three of these—*Buphaga erythrorhyncha*, *Dicrurus ludwigi*, and *Lophotriorchis lucani*—are now recorded from Nyasaland for the first time.

The nomenclature of the 'Birds of Africa' is followed in the subjoined list, except where other references are given. After selection of the specimens required for the British Museum, the remainder will be sent to the South-African Museum, Cape Town.

1. NECTARINIA KILIMENSIS (op. cit. p. 2).

Angoniland. Long central tail-feathers not fully grown. Native name "Songue."

2. ANTHUS RUFULUS (op. cit. p. 12).

Angoniland. Native name "Ndula."

3. MACRONYX CROCEUS (op. cit. p. 13).

Chilasula. Native name "Twanganji."

4. EMBERIZA MAJOR (op. cit. p. 18).

Angoniland. There can, I think, be no doubt that the types of *Fringillaria orientalis* (1882) and *F. major* (1880) belong to one species. With twenty-six specimens before me from Zomba and the surrounding district, I find that the amount of white on the chin and upper throat varies; the dark portion of the head is jet-black in full-plumaged males, brown in females and young birds. The variation

in the extent of the pale central band on the crown depends on sex and age, and is entirely absent in some fully-grown young birds. The amount of white on the wing-coverts also depends solely upon age, for in some fully-grown young birds there is no white on the wing, and in these the upper parts are more rufous. The wings vary in length from 2·8 to 3·4 inches.

5. FRINGILLARIA TAHAPISI (op. cit. p. 18).
Angoniland.

6. SPERMESTES SCUTATUS (op. cit. p. 28).
Chanda. Native name "*Chipinga*."

7. SPERMESTES NIGRICEPS (op. cit. p. 28).
(Not labelled.)

8. ESTRILDA MINOR Cab.
Maloza. Native name "*Chijojola*."

9. ESTRILDA SUBFLAVA (op. cit. p. 30).
Lindipe, near Matope. Native name "*Kajojola*."

10. HYPARGUS NIVEIGUTTATUS (op. cit. p. 32).
Angoniland. Native name "*Chipalanganga*."

11. PLOCEIPASSER PECTORALIS (op. cit. p. 34).
Lindipe. Native name "*Pelengaya*."

12. SYCOBROTUS STICTIFRONS (op. cit. p. 37).
Chilasulo.

13. HYPHANTURGUS OCULARIUS (op. cit. p. 38).
Angoniland.

14. XANTHOPHILUS XANTHOPS (op. cit. p. 39).
Angoniland.

15. ORIOLUS NOTATUS (op. cit. p. 41).
Angoniland. Native name "*Hisundambawala*."

16. ORIOLUS LARVATUS (op. cit. p. 41).
Angoniland. Native name "*Lisondambamala*"; this name and that of the last species are probably the same.

17. BUPHAGA ERYTHORHYNCHA (op. cit. p. 41).
Mpimbi

18. PHOLIDAUGES VERREAUXI (op. cit. p. 42).
Angoniland.

19. LAMPROCOLIUS SYCOBIUS (op. cit. p. 43).
Lindipe. Native name "*Likwilili*."

20. DICRURUS LUDWIGI (op. cit. p. 47).

Chilasulo. This Drongo is now recorded from British Central Africa for the first time.

In habits it is essentially a bird of the thick bush, and differs in this respect from the forked-tailed species, such as *D. afer*, which are generally seen on the tops of shrubs in the open country. It apparently ranges from Port Natal, where the type was obtained by Sir Andrew Smith, to the Congo and Tana Rivers, and, according to Dr. Reichenow, Bohndorff procured examples of this species at Manyango and Fischer at Muniuni. Sousa mentions a specimen as having been obtained in Benguela by Anchieta. In the British Museum there are now examples from Natal, Zululand, the present specimen from Chilasulo, and two from the Usambara country to the north of the Pangani River.

D. atripennis, the type of which came from Sierra Leone, is a doubtfully distinct subspecies of *D. ludwigi*. It is represented in the British Museum by one specimen from the Gambia, three from Fantee, one from Shongo on the Niger, one from Rio del Rey in Camaroons, and one (of Du Chaillu's) from Gaboon. The only characters I can find to distinguish *D. atripennis* from *D. ludwigi* are that the ends of the tail-feathers in *D. atripennis* appear to be constantly slightly wider and more rounded, and the shaft of the outer feather is somewhat straighter and not curved at the tip. On the average *D. atripennis* is slightly larger, and the metallic gloss is generally brighter, except in the specimen from Shonga and that from the Gambia (the latter being in partial moult); these have the plumage black with a bluish gloss, almost confined to the upper parts. An apparently very similar bird, obtained by Marche at Doumé, in Gaboon, is the type of *D. sharpii* Oust. N. Arch. (2) ii. p. 97 (1879).

The true *D. modestus* is confined to Prince's Island, and is replaced on the continent by a similarly coloured small form (*D. coracinus*), which ranges from Loango into Camaroons. This species is represented in the British Museum by one specimen from Landana, seven from Gaboon, and two from the Rio del Rey, in Camaroons. All the Angola and Gold-Coast specimens in the collection belong to *D. afer*, so I presume that *D. coracinus* Reichen. (J. f. O. 1897, p. 34) from Togoland should also be referred to *D. afer*—the common African Drongo, which ranges over Africa generally southward from about 17° N. latitude. The gloss on the plumage of this species is very evenly distributed over the upper parts, a character that distinguishes it from *D. modestus* and *D. coracinus*, both of which have the back velvety black. The gloss on the plumage, however, varies from bluish green to violet, being affected by the season and the atmosphere. These changes, however slight, may be held responsible for the number of different names this species has received, the most recent of which is *D. modestus atactus* Oberholser (Pr. U.S. Mus. xxii. p. 36, 1899), and the oldest is *Corvus afer* Licht. 1793, which should not be discarded on account of *Cryptorhina afra* (Linn.) having been originally placed in the genus *Corvus*.

There are three Drongos of the Ethiopian Region which are known to me by the original descriptions only; these are:—*D. sharpii*, above referred to; *Buchanga atra* var. *fuscipennis* Milne-Edw. & Oust. Ann. Sc. Nat. Zool. 1887, p. 225, from Great Comoro Island; and *Buchanga aldabrana* Ridgway, Pr. U.S. Mus. xvi. p. 597 (1893), from Aldabra Island. It is possible, if not highly probable, that these two last names refer to specimens of *Dicrurus waldeni* Schl., which is represented in the British Museum by a single specimen from the Island of Mayotte.

I should add that these remarks on the Ethiopian Drongos and the following key are based entirely on the specimens in the British Museum.

Key to the Ethiopian Forms of Dicrurus.

- a.* Tail more forked; depth of fork 1·25 to 2·5 inches.
- a*¹. Frontal feathers much elongated and longer than the culmen *D. forficatus.*
- b*¹. Frontal feathers not elongated.
- a*². Entirely black, with a green gloss. Culmen 1·2, wing 5·6; tail, central feathers 5·0, outer ones 7·5; tarsus 1·0.—Mayotte I. *D. waldeni.*
- b*². Quills and tail brown; remainder of plumage in adult males black glossed with greenish blue.
- a*³. Wing 5·8, tail 5·6, tarsus 0·96. — Great Comoro I. *D. fuscipennis.*
- b*³. Wing 5·3; tail, central feathers 4·2, outer 5·55; tarsus 0·92. The female differs in being slaty grey above and greyish white below.—Aldabra I. *D. aldabranus.*
- b.* Tail less forked; depth of fork less than one inch.
- c*¹. Tail more forked; wing 4·8 to 5·5, tail 4·4 to 5·3.
- c*². Back strongly glossed like the crown and upper tail-coverts *D. afer.*
- d*². Back velvety black, contrasting strongly with the glossy green of the crown and upper tail-coverts.
- c*³. Larger: culmen 1·0, wing 5·2 to 5·5, tail 4·8 to 5·0.—Prince's I. *D. modestus.*
- d*³. Culmen 0·75 to 0·85, wing 4·8 to 5·3, tail 4·4 to 4·5.—Continent of Africa *D. coraciinus.*
- d*¹. Tail square or much less forked; wing 3·8 to 4·6, tail 3·5 to 4·2.
- e*². Ends of tail-feathers more angular; wing 3·8 to 4·1, tail 3·5 to 3·7.—South from the Congo and Tana Rivers *D. ludwigi.*
- f*². Ends of tail-feathers more rounded; wing 4·0 to 4·6, tail 3·5 to 4·2.—Gambia to Gaboon. *D. atripennis.*
- g*². Entire plumage black, slightly glossed with blue; wing 4·2, tail 4·0.—Gaboon *D. sharpii.*

21. PRIONOPS TALACOMA (op. cit. p. 49).

Angoniland. Native name "*Manda*."

22. ENNEOCTONUS COLLURIO (op. cit. p. 53).

Lindipe.

23. LANIARIUS MOSAMBICUS (op. cit. p. 53).

Angoniland; Chicala. Native name "*Mwiyo*."

24. *DRYOSCOPIUS CUBLA* (op. cit. p. 55).
Angoniland. Native name the same as that of the last species.
25. *TELEPHONUS SENEGALUS* (op. cit. p. 55).
Chilasulo. Native name "*Kapuli*."
26. *PELICINIUS BERTRANDI* (op. cit. p. 56).
Angoniland.
27. *MALACONOTUS SULPHUREIPECTUS* (op. cit. p. 56).
Chilasulo.
28. *MALACONOTUS STARKI* ScI. fil. *Ibis*, 1901, p. 153.
Chilasulo.
29. *CRATEROPUS KIRKI* (op. cit. p. 58).
Lindipe. Native name "*Ligolegole*."
30. *PYCNONOTUS LAYARDI* (op. cit. p. 60).
Chikala. Native name "*Pumbwa*."
31. *ANDROPADUS STRIIFACIES* (op. cit. p. 64).
Angoniland.
32. *CISTICOLA CINERASCENS* (op. cit. p. 75).
Chikala. Native name "*Ndinoli*."
33. *SYLVIA SIMPLEX* (op. cit. p. 81).
Lindipe.
34. *COSSYPHA CAFFRA* (op. cit. p. 84).
Angoniland. Native name "*Lumbisi*." I fail to find any characters for distinguishing an East-African race (*C. caffra isolama* Reichenow, *Orn. Monatsb.* 1900, p. 5) from specimens of this species from the Cape Colony.
35. *COSSYPHA HEUGLINI* (op. cit. p. 84).
Chikala. Native name "*Lumbisi*."
36. *PRATINCOLA TORQUATA* (op. cit. p. 86).
Angoniland. Native name "*Tambala*."
37. *TURDUS LIBONIANUS* (op. cit. p. 88).
Chilasulo. Native name "*Lichonja*."

38. *MONTICOLA ANGOLENSIS* (op. cit. p. 89).
Angoniland. Native name "Njole."
39. *BRADYORNIS MURINUS* (op. cit. p. 93).
Chanda.
40. *SMITHORNIS CAPENSIS* (op. cit. p. 96).
Mpimbi. Native name "Ngulengule."
41. *HIRUNDO PUELLA* (op. cit. p. 102).
Angoniland. Native name "Chimalewale."
42. *HAPALODERMA NARINA* (op. cit. p. 108).
Chilasulo.
43. *EURYSTOMUS GLAUCURUS* (op. cit. p. 109).
Chilasulo. Native name "Chole."
44. *EURYSTOMUS AFER* (op. cit. p. 109).
Angoniland; Chilasulo; Mpimbi. Native name "Chole."
45. *CORACIAS CAUDATUS* (op. cit. p. 109).
Lindipe.
46. *MELITTOPHAGUS BULLOCKOIDES* (op. cit. p. 111).
Chikala. Native name "Changombe."
47. *MEROPS APIASTER* (op. cit. p. 111).
Angoniland, in winter plumage. Native name "Ehangombe."
48. *MEROPS NATALENSIS* (op. cit. p. 111).
Angoniland. Native name "Ehangombe."
49. *HALCYON HYACINTHINUS* Reichen.; Shelley, Ibis, 1901,
p. 173.
Angoniland. Native name "Kalalangombe."
50. *COLIUS AFFINIS* (op. cit. p. 118).
Angoniland. Native name "Pasapanga."
51. *TURACUS LIVINGSTONII* (op. cit. p. 119).
Angoniland. Native name "Ngalukula."
52. *GALLIREX CHLOROCHLAMYS* (op. cit. p. 120).
Chilasulo. Native name "Ngulakula." These last two

names are probably the same, and are applied to all Plantain-eaters.

53. CEUTHMOCHARES AUSTRALIS (op. cit. p. 122).

Lindipe.

54. COCCYSTES HYPOPINARIUS (op. cit. p. 123).

Chilasulo. Native name "*Mkoka*."

55. CUCULUS CANORUS (op. cit. p. 124).

Angoniland, two specimens, both immature. Native name "*Chamkoko*."

56. CUCULUS CLAMOSUS (op. cit. p. 124).

Angoniland; Zomba; Lindipe. Native name "*Mkoko*."

57. CHRYSOCOCCYX KLAASI (op. cit. p. 124).

Angoniland. Native name "*Tiatia*."

58. CHRYSOCOCCYX CUPREUS (op. cit. p. 124).

Mpimbi. Native name "*Tiatia*."

59. LYBIUS TORQUATUS (Dumont) (op. cit. p. 126); Sharpe, Hand-l. B. ii. p. 178 (1900).

Angoniland. Native name "*Chilagodo*."

60. SMILORHIS WHYTHI (op. cit. p. 128).

Chilasulo.

61. DENDROPICUS HARTLAUBI Malh. Rev. de Zool. 1849, p. 532.

Dendropicus zanzibari (op. cit. p. 132).

Chilasulo. Native name "*Ngongonda*."

62. COLUMBA ARQUATRIX (op. cit. p. 135).

Maloza. Native name "*Kikanganjuna*."

63. CHALCOPELIA AFRA (op. cit. p. 137).

Angoniland. Native name "*Katukutuku*."

64. PŒOCEPHALUS FUSCICAPILLUS (op. cit. p. 139).

Chilasulo; Chizala. Native name "*Ngwe*."

65. GLAUCIDIUM PERLATUM (op. cit. p. 142).

Zomba. Native name "*Karungutulu*."

66. *ELANUS CÆRULEUS* (op. cit. p. 147).

Zomba. Native name "Katotola."

67. *LOPHOTRIORCHIS LUCANI* Sharpe & Bouvier, Bull. Soc. Zool. France, 1877, p. 471.

Angoniland. Native name "Kafumbi."

This small Eagle somewhat resembles *Aquila wahlbergi* in size and in having a short crest on the hinder part of the crown, but may be readily distinguished from that bird and from *Nisaëtus pennatus* by its having seven distinct dark bars across the tail and some blackish bars on the white inner lining of the wings. *Lophoaëtus occipitalis*, the commonest little Eagle in the Nyasa district, has an extremely long crest, much darker plumage, and the tail crossed by only four dark bands.

L. lucani, in the pattern of the tail and under surface of the wings, resembles the immature stage of *Nisaëtus spilogaster*, but is a very much smaller bird, with the wing not more than 15·5 inches, which is the measurement of the wing of a specimen from Delagoa Bay, while in the type from Landana it is 14·6, and in the present specimen only 13·7.

I omitted this species in my 'List of African Birds' owing to the late Mr. J. H. Gurney's remark ('List of Diurnal Birds of Prey,' 1884, p. 52, note 1) that the type of *L. lucani* seemed to him to be a young *Nisaëtus spilogaster*, apparently a male.

I may remark that this species should be entered in my List (B. Afr. i. p. 149) after *Nisaëtus*, and that before that genus should be added *Archibuteo lagopus*, of which there are two specimens in the British Museum labelled "Port Natal."

68. *ASTURINULA MONOGRAMMICA* (op. cit. p. 151).

Chanda. Native name "Katotola."

69. *ACCIPITER MELANOLEUCUS* (op. cit. p. 153).

Chilasulo. Native name "Nganga."

70. *POLYBOROIDES TYPICUS* (op. cit. p. 153).

Chanda. Native name "Nganga."

71. *COTURNIX DELEGORGUII* (op. cit. p. 179).
Angoniland. Native name "*Chiuti*."
72. *FRANCOLINUS SHELLEYI* (op. cit. p. 181).
Angoniland. Native name "*Ehokongo*."
73. *FRANCOLINUS JOHNSTONI* (op. cit. p. 182).
Mlanji. Native name "*Chikwelehwe*."
74. *STEPHANIBYX INORNATUS* (op. cit. p. 188).
Mpimbe. Native name "*Ngulengule*."
75. *TOTANUS OCHROPUS* (op. cit. p. 192).
Chilasulo.

XLII.—On two recently discovered Additions to the Genus
Calliste. By P. L. SCLATER, D.Sc., F.R.S.

(Plate XII.)

THE beautiful Tanagers of the genus *Calliste* have been a frequent subject of my studies ever since I began ornithological work, and I feel much indebted to Mr. Walter Rothschild for allowing me to figure two recently described additions to this attractive group from specimens in the Tring Museum.

One of the first papers I ever wrote on birds was a "*Synopsis of the Tanagerine Genus Calliste*," which appeared in Jardine's '*Contributions to Ornithology*' for 1851. It contained descriptions of 48 species, which were divided into eight groups, not, however, considered as being even of subgeneric value, but employed solely for convenience of arrangement.

In 1854 I made another list of the species of *Calliste* in my '*Tanagarum Catalogus Specificus*,' in which I separated the "*Procnopides*" as a genus. In doing this, however, I think that I made a mistake.

In 1856, in my "*Synopsis Avium Tanagrarum*," published in the Zoological Society's '*Proceedings*,' I took care to reduce "*Procnopis*" to its proper level, as being merely a subdivision of *Calliste*, and made the number of species then known to be 51.